

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

INTRODUCED BY M. LEE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING SUPPORT FOR AN AMTRAK ROUTE FROM DENVER TO SPOKANE THAT PASSES THROUGH SOUTHERN AND WESTERN MONTANA.

WHEREAS, there is a need for passenger rail service between Denver and Spokane that would cross southern and western Montana; and

WHEREAS, this route would pass through some of the most spectacular scenery in the western United States by winding through the spectacular Wind River Canyon, climbing over the majestic Continental Divide, gently meandering along the flowing tributaries of the Clark's Fork River, and skirting beautiful Pend d'Oreille Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Denver-Spokane corridor provides access to three major national parks and numerous winter ski resorts; and

WHEREAS, the increasing price of gasoline and the high cost of airline service have left many Montana citizens without a suitable transportation alternative; and

WHEREAS, passenger train service would bring needed jobs to Montana, both in the rail industry and in the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, this route would provide a much needed and safer mode of transportation to fit the lifestyle of the westerner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana Legislature support the development of an AMTRAK route between Denver and Spokane that passes through southern and western Montana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Montana Congressional Delegation, to the Montana/Wyoming Association of Railroad Passengers, and to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation in Washington, D.C.

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